

**Lincoln, Nebraska  
June 11, 2008**

**JUSTICE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMITTEE  
*MEETING MINUTES***

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The Justice Behavioral Health Committee (JBHC) of the Community Corrections Council (Council) met Wednesday, June 11, 2008, in Conference Room A, at Bryan LGH West, Lincoln, Nebraska. The meeting was open to the public and was preceded by advance publicized notice in the Lincoln Journal Star.

**Members Present:**

John Atherton  
Jerome Barry, Co-Chair  
Michael Behm  
Scott Carlson  
Dave Carver  
Cathy Gibson-Beltz  
Lori Griggs  
Jim Harvey  
Julie Hippen  
Randy Kohl  
Linda Krutz  
Joel McCleary  
Deb Minardi  
Terri Nutzman  
Bruce Prenda  
Nancy Probst  
T. Hank Robinson  
Steve Rowoldt, Co-Chair  
Christine Salvatore  
Dave Wegner  
Mark Weilage  
Linda Wittmuss

**Members Absent:**

Robert Bell  
Roxie Cillessen  
Ellen Fabian-Brokofsky  
Thomas Glenn  
Kathleen Grant  
Scott Helvie  
Lee Kimzey  
Barbara Lewien  
Dennis McChargue  
Mona McGee-Snyder  
Rick McNeese  
Michael Overton  
Kathy Seacrest

**Council Staff Present:**

Nickette Allen  
Tia Bachman  
Jeffrey Beaty

## **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS**

Jerome Barry, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m. and announced the meeting was subject to the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. Attendance is indicated above. Each member introduced him or herself and gave a brief statement about their association with JBHC.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Members reviewed the March 12, 2008 meeting minutes. A correction was made on page 3, Sub-Committee Reports/Data: 'Dave Wegner said the Data Sub-Committee did not meet on March 4, 2008.'

*A motion was made by Mike Behm and seconded by Dave Carver to approve the March 12, 2008 minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously by acclamation.*

## **MEMBERSHIP ATTENDANCE REPORT/BYLAWS REVIEW**

During the March 12 meeting, JBHC members agreed Barry, Steve Rowoldt, and Jeff Beaty, Policy Analyst for the Community Corrections Council, would meet to create a proposal of changes to the existing Guidelines dated March 15, 2007. All agency representatives were contacted individually if affected by the changes.

Beaty discussed the proposed changes which included the removal of members whose agencies are adequately represented.

Section 4.1, Representation, changes:

3. The Probation Administrator or a permanent designee - will be struck.
9. The Information Services Chief of the Crime Commission - will be struck.
11. Will be changed to read: A representative from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health.
12. Will be changed to read: A representative from the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Medicaid and Long Term Care.
18. Will be changed to read: The Parole Administrator or a permanent designee.
19. Will be split into two representations: A psychiatrist or physician;  
The Department of Correctional Services Medical Director or a permanent designee.
20. Will be changed to read: A representative from the Department of Correctional Services, Behavioral Health or Substance Abuse.

21. The Work Ethic Camp Facility Administrator - will be struck.

23. A representative from the Governor's Policy Research Office - will be struck.

Section 6.2, Attendance Requirements, will be changed to read:

It is expected that members will make every attempt to attend every Committee meeting. Members must attend at least two meetings during each calendar year. Four consecutive unexcused absences or six consecutive absences for any reason will result in a review of membership by the committee and the member shall be contacted by a member of the committee. If a member knows he or she will not be present at a meeting, the member must inform staff of his or her absence prior to the meeting.

The Chairperson shall conduct an annual attendance review at the first meeting of the calendar year. The chair shall review the attendance records for the past year and entertain motions to remove any member, other than a member seated by reason of membership on the Community Corrections Council, from the committee who has 4 or more consecutive unexcused absences or 6 consecutive absences for any reason. Prior to the attendance review, the Chairperson shall attempt to communicate with members who have failed to meet the attendance requirements to inform them of the attendance requirements and determine their interest in continuing to serve on the Committee. Any member subject to such a motion who is present at the meeting shall be provided the opportunity to address the Committee prior to a vote taking place.

If a member seated on the Committee by reason of his or her membership on the Community Corrections Council fails to meet the attendance requirements of this section the Chairperson, as part of the annual membership review, shall notify the Chairperson of the Community Corrections Council of the attendance issue.

Members agreed to replace the term Guidelines with Bylaws in future documents.

*A motion was made by Cathy Gibson-Beltz and seconded by John Atherton to accept the proposed changes to the Bylaws. Roll call was conducted and the motion passed unanimously.*

The Bylaws will be rewritten and prepared for the next JBHC meeting in September.

#### **MEMBERSHIP AFFIRMATION**

Jim Harvey, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Behavioral Health, was proposed as the replacement for Lee Tyson.

*A ballot vote was conducted and Harvey was elected as the representative for DHHS Division of Behavioral Health.*

## **MEMBERSHIP VACANCY REVIEW**

At the time of this meeting, JBHC consists of thirty-seven committee members. Four member positions are currently vacant.

Krutz noted the Governor has not yet filled the two Council vacancies for behavioral health.

Deb Minardi will inform JBHC when Probation Administration hires the Justice Systems Treatment Specialist position formerly held by Christine Salvatore.

Atherton will propose a candidate for the Licensed Mental Health Practitioner (LMHP) vacancy at the next meeting.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum: Linda Wittmuss gave a report on the Curriculum Sub-Committee. Wittmuss noted the current members of the sub-committee are:

Dave Carver  
Dennis McChargue  
Monica Miles-Steffen  
Russ Smith  
Kate Speck  
Linda Wittmuss

Wittmuss said the sub-committee met June 2, 2008 to prepare the third draft of the Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSA's) training standards. A new title, Performance Assessment Rubrics for Addiction and Criminal Justice Professionals, was created.

The subsection title, Knowledge of the Nebraska Criminal Justice System - Adult and Juvenile, will be changed to Knowledge of the Nebraska Criminal and Juvenile Justice Continuum.

Wittmuss said addictions and mental health professionals typically have an array of skills in their field. Wittmuss said basic elements are necessary to work with the criminal justice population and discussed the 'suggested levels of knowledge and skills'. She described them as a useful tool during peer reviews. Barry stated the knowledge and skills listed are not required to obtain the Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor (LADC) or LMHP licenses.

Wittmuss listed Criminal Justice Personnel that should be receiving training and detailed the recommended courses for entry, intermediate, and advanced levels of knowledge. Cathy Gibson-Beltz suggested Parole Officers and Parole District

Supervisors should be added. Randy Kohl suggested Social Workers also be added to the list.

Atherton, Barry, Carver, and Weilage agreed to inform their respective licensing boards of work and progress made by JBHC and it's sub-committees at a future board meeting. They will present the licensing boards recommendations at the September meeting.

Robinson suggested the next step for the Curriculum committee is to figure out the potential range of mechanisms by which these kinds of ideas could be deployed and then figure out how they fit.

Christine Salvatore nominated Cory Steel, Department of Correctional Services, to sit on the sub-committee.

Data: Dave Wegner said the Data Sub-Committee met on May 27, 2008 in conjunction with the Uniform Data Committee, Community Corrections Council. Wegner noted current members of the sub-committee are:

Scott Carlson  
Mike Dunkle  
Julie Hippen  
Hank Robinson  
Marcella Short  
Linda Wittmuss

Wegner said the sub-committee discussed the budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 (FY08-09). Wegner said there was an increase in spending authority of the Uniform Data Fund which will allow for projects to be completed in FY08-09.

Wegner requested the list of projects needing completed or expanded that was created from the sub-committee meeting be emailed to all JBHC members.

Jim Harvey requested to be on the sub-committee and was accepted.

Provider: Nancy Probst gave a report on the Provider Sub-Committee. Probst noted the current members of the sub-committee are:

Jerome Barry  
Denny Crain  
Martha Coleman-Heydenreich  
Jim Holmquist  
Janet Johnson  
Nicki Kennedy  
Dennis McChargue  
Rick McNeese

Brenda Miner  
Paula Moritz  
Michelle Nelson  
Christine Salvatore  
Kate Speck  
Barry Tesch  
Pam Wells

## **EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES AND PRINCIPLES DEFINITION DISCUSSION**

Probst presented the third draft of the coordinated recommendation of evidence based practice/principles. Probst stated the bibliography was added as requested.

The following changes will be made to the third draft:

3. Will be changed to read: Concerted effort is made to involve and engage the client's significant others/family members in the assessment, treatment, and discharge planning processes when indicated.
11. Will be changed to read: Successful recovery is achieved with effective communication between criminal and juvenile justice and substance abuse providers.

The final report will be prepared for the next JBHC meeting in September.

## **PROVIDER FOLLOW-UP SURVEY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Hank Robinson and Christine Salvatore presented the summary recommendations from answers received in the Zoomerang Provider Follow-up Survey Comment Section.

Salvatore stated Probation is not providing enough information to providers. Salvatore said the Simple Screening Instrument (SSI), Standardized Risk Assessment Reporting Format for Substance Abusing Offenders (SRARF), and criminal history is the minimum required information.

Robinson stated JBHC needs to start building in the Quality Assurance piece and regulate whether the standardized model is being utilized. Robinson said this lays the groundwork for determining whether the Addictions Service Index (ASI) and Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Inventory (CASI) are the best instruments for this process in the future. Robinson said data is required for the Council or the Supreme Court to make a deliberate and considered decision to change a screening instrument.

## **PROBATION & PAROLE STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Rowoldt said the Probation and Parole Strategic Planning Committee (Committee) met from September 2007 until April 2008. Rowoldt said the Committee would like to utilize JBHC as an information base for behavioral health and substance abuse.

## **CO-OCCURRING MENTAL HEALTH / CRIMINAL JUSTICE DISCUSSION**

Harvey discussed mental health in the Criminal Justice System. Harvey said the Sequential Intercepts for Change model, National GAINS Center, Delmar, NY, was the

inspiration to hold a meeting between Criminal Justice and private industries on December 5-6, 2007.

Harvey stated the final report on Transforming Services for Persons with Mental Illness in Contact with the Criminal Justice System, December 5-6, 2007, is found at <http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/beh/Reports.htm>.

Harvey discussed the \$50,000 mental health planning grant received by the Division of Behavioral Health, DHHS. Harvey stated the goal is to improve the cross disciplinary system of care for persons with mental illness who encounter the criminal justice system in Nebraska by strengthening early intervention efforts to mitigate recidivism and prevent persons, especially juveniles, from cycling through institutionalized settings throughout their lives.

Harvey said the Nebraska Justice Mental Health Initiative Needs Assessment and Nebraska Justice Mental Health Initiative Literature Review, executive summaries received from Dr. Mark DeKraai, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center Project Director, will be available on the DHHS website under reports.

Harvey said the Category II: Planning and Implementation grant was submitted on May 6, 2008. If awarded the grant, DHHS would have a project period from November 1, 2008 through October 31, 2008 and receive a maximum of \$250,000.

#### **COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS COUNCIL REPORT**

Krutz said the Council meeting that was scheduled for May 16, 2008 was cancelled and therefore no meeting minutes are available. The next Council meeting will be held on Friday, June 20, 2008. Krutz invited all JBHC members to attend.

#### **UNIFORM DATA ANALYSIS FUND**

Mike Behm gave a report on the Uniform Data Analysis Fund. Behm requested all JBHC members review the report Wegner discussed from the Uniform Data Analysis meeting.

#### **PROBATION ADMINISTRATION UPDATE**

Minardi gave the Probation Administration Update. Minardi said in a recent publication, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) & American Probation and Parole Association recognized Nebraska's Standardized Model in working with DWI offenders as best practice / procedures for setting up systems and guiding offenders.

A link to the NHTSA website and Guidelines for Community Supervision of DWI Offenders will be sent out to all JBHC members.

## **PAROLE**

Gibson-Beltz gave the Parole Administration report. Gibson-Beltz said Parole is working with Probation and the Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision (SSAS) sub-committee to increase the number of offenders on Parole screened for SSAS.

Gibson-Beltz said Rick McNeese has coordinated training with the Lincoln Medical Education Program (LMEP) for Training for Addiction Professionals (TAP) training. A link to the LMEP website and a training brochure for the offered training courses in Lincoln will be sent out to all JBHC members.

## **JUVENILE REPORT**

Terri Nutzman requested the Juvenile Report be tabled until the September 10 meeting.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Due to the lengthy agendas, all members present agreed to begin future meetings at 9:00 a.m. contingent on meeting space being available.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

There was no public testimony at this meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting **is currently** scheduled for Wednesday, September 10, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., at Bryan LGH West Conference Room C in Lincoln, Nebraska. **(Time may change to 9:00 a.m. contingent of meeting space availability.)**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Tia M. Bachman